

Critical Incident Questionnaire, CrCrTh 650, 13 Sep 17

1. What incident/comment/reaction/quote stands out from this experience?

- really like surfacing the idea that society's needs around mathematics may be changing, and that need for a change may have been there all along.
- course as "mathematical-creative dialectic"
- The autobiographical introductions. I really enjoyed hearing why everyone was participating in this class and it did help to connect with people because we learned we had similar interests.
- "This quote someone posted in Activity 1. ""“People don't use Shakespeare in their jobs, but it's still important for them to read it,” he said. “It's not the same,” I told him. “Reading fiction builds empathy.”
- “Math helps us understand the world around us!” Andrei replied. “Like how derivatives demonstrate change over time.” He smiled, and I could tell that for him, it was all clear and beautiful.” (But for the author it wasn't.)
- Challenged my thinking. Maybe pure math is an important intellectual challenge that helps us see the world in a different way. "
- Collaborative explorations and patterns in mathematical thinking
- This is the first class where I feel that there are people with similar backgrounds to my own. I truly enjoyed the self-introductions, and I am looking forward to collaboration with peers.

2. At what moment did you feel most: a. engaged with what was happening?

- It was nice to get to dig up and read through articles
- doing the rapid inquiry and finding things on the WWW
- The free writing and then breakout sessions to discuss what we had written. I liked interacting one on one, but I would also have liked to share it with the entire class. But it was nice receiving feedback from another member of the class.
- Looking for patterns in the posts from activity 1.
- Listening to autobiographical introductions and writing the feedback (connections and extensions)
- Listening to students come together after time spent on personal contributions.

b. distanced from what was happening?

- skipped dinner, and faded a bit toward the end of class
- when there were glitches in the online links for people
- I did not feel distanced at any point, I felt very engaged throughout the whole session.
- First minute of activity one, as I thought about wording my web search
- I lost the connection after speaking. Technical problem.
- There are a lot of technology sites utilized in this course. Today it was a tad overwhelming- I had my title tab bar full of pages that seemed to be going every which way for various assignments.

3. What action that any participant (incl. teachers/facilitators) took (including, if applicable, online interactions) did you find: a. most helpful or affirming?

- was great to hear everyone's introductions, lots of great background from all these colleagues
- having to think about connections and extensions for each speaker
- When I spoke with Ted during the breakout session after our free writing and he mentioned that he related mathematical thinking to language. He really made me think because math uses equations, but so does language and sentence structure. You can completely change the meaning of a phrase dependent on where you place certain words. This is the same with a math equation, you can have a completely different answer if the formulas are calculated in a different pattern.
- The sharing of personal histories with Math and hearing how it was intertwined with peoples choices .
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- Peter's patience and willingness not to leave any student behind was greatly appreciated and respected.

b. most puzzling or confusing?

- thought to quickly dig into everyone else's articles with enough time to extract as much meaning as they likely got.
- how such a diversity of students can find value in a single course
- The follow-up after activity 1 was a bit confusing. I am not sure if I completely grasped the activity so peoples explanations of what they connected with was a bit confusing.
- not sure
- activity steps
- NA

4 (Optional). Other comments?

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- I really enjoyed the class and liked how interactive it was!
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